

REMARKS

Initially, Applicant would like to express his appreciation to the Examiner for the detailed Official Action provided, for the acknowledgment of Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement by return of the Form PTO-1449, and for the acknowledgment of Applicant's Claim for Priority and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document in the Official Action.

Upon entry of the above amendments claims 1-5 will have been amended and claims 6-15 will have been newly presented. Claims 1-15 are currently pending. Applicant submits that none of the amendments or newly presented claims contain impermissible new matter. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding rejections, and allowance of all the claims pending in the present application.

In the Office Action, claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Schmidt et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,503,418); claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kozyra et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,120,150); and claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 05-193513.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

P24465.A04

Claim 1, as amended, recites, inter alia, "the connector comprises a first end configured to connect to a terminal end of a tie rod via ball joint coupling, a second end configured to be detachably fixed between the body and a ball joint connected to a lower arm of a suspension, and a third end configured to be detachably fixed between the body and a caliper."

Applicant submits that none of the applied reference disclose the combination of a connector including *a first end configured to connect to a terminal end of a tie rod via ball joint coupling, a second end configured to be detachably fixed between a body and a ball joint connected to a lower arm of a suspension, and a third end configured to be detachably fixed between a body and a caliper.*

In regard to Schmidt et al., Applicant notes that the offset socket 34 (designated as the connector by the Examiner) does not include the combination of the first, second and third ends as recited in claim 1. Applicant submits that Schmidt et al. lacks any disclosure of *a second end configured to be detachably fixed between a body and a ball joint connected to a lower arm of a suspension and a third end configured to be detachably fixed between a body and a caliper.*

In regard to Kozyra et al., Applicant notes that the bearing carrier 22 (designated as the connector by the Examiner) does not include the combination of the first, second and third ends as recited in claim 1. Applicant submits that Kozyra et al. lacks any disclosure of *a second end configured to be detachably fixed between a body and a ball joint connected to a lower arm of a suspension.*

P24465.A04

In regard to JP 05-193513, Applicant notes that the element 48 (designated as the connector by the Examiner) does not include the combination of the first, second and third ends as recited in claim 1. Applicant submits that JP 05-193513 lacks any disclosure of *a second end configured to be detachably fixed between a body and a ball joint connected to a lower arm of a suspension and a third end configured to be detachably fixed between a body and a caliper.*

Applicant notes, for example, that a non-limiting embodiment of the present invention includes a connector 300 having a first end 310 configured to connect to a tie rod 200, a second end 320 configured to be detachably fixed between a knuckle body 100 and a ball joint 140 connected to a lower arm of a suspension, and a third end 330 configured to be detachably fixed between the knuckle body 100 and a caliper.

Applicant also submits that dependent claims 2-5, which are at least patentable due to their dependency from claim 1 for the reasons noted above, recite additional features of the invention and are also separately patentable over the prior art of record.

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) based are improper at least for each and certainly for all of the above-noted reasons. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections, and an early indication of the allowance of all of the pending claims.

Applicant further submits that newly presented claims 6-15, which are at least patentable due to their dependency from claim 1 for the reasons noted above, recite additional features of the invention and are also separately patentable over the prior art

P24465.A04

of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests an early indication of the allowance of claims 6-15.

Based on the above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

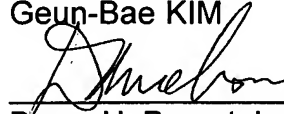
Entry and consideration of the present amendment, reconsideration of the outstanding Official Action, and allowance of the present application and all of the claims therein are respectfully requested and now believed to be appropriate.

Applicant has made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance and believes that he has now done so.

Any amendments to the claims that have been made in this amendment, which do not narrow the scope of the claims, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered cosmetic in nature, and to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should there be any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Geun-Bae KIM



Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

Daniel B. Moon
Reg. No. 48,214

April 12, 2006
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191